

Health Alert

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**SUBJECT: CDC Update: CDC case definition of anthrax
and summary of confirmed cases**

The Department of Health and Senior Services is forwarding the following information from CDC. Please contact the Department if you have any questions at 1-800-392-0272.

CDC case definition of anthrax

CDC defines a confirmed case of anthrax as 1) a clinically compatible case of cutaneous, inhalational, or gastrointestinal illness that is laboratory confirmed by isolation of *B. anthracis* from an affected tissue or site or 2) other laboratory evidence of *B. anthracis* infection based on at least two supportive laboratory tests.

Based on this definition, CDC is reporting 6 confirmed cases of anthrax: 2 in Florida, 3 in New York, and one in New Jersey. However, there are two additional cases with less laboratory evidence being reported by local investigators.

For the latest update on CDC activities and on-going anthrax investigations visit www.bt.cdc.gov <<http://www.bt.cdc.gov>> or www.cdc.gov/od/oc/media <<http://www.cdc.gov/od/oc/media>>

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